

# Giving Fingerprints WORKSHEET

*Designed to help you discover  
your unique giving brand.*

You are as unique as the pattern of  
whorls and lines of your fingerprint.  
***So is your giving style.***

Make your mark on the causes closest to  
your heart and maximize the impact of  
your gifts by discovering your distinctive,  
personal giving brand.

*\*This worksheet accompanies the free e-book Giving Fingerprints.*

**Download your copy of the e-book at:**  
**[www.GivingFingerprints.com](http://www.GivingFingerprints.com)**





# 1 Determine your top giving words.

Review the following 36 words and accompanying questions. Think about each one through your personal giving lens. **Which words reflect what is most important to you and the way you give?**

***Check the words that feel the most like you when you are giving.***

☐ **Appreciation**

*Is it important for you to be thanked for your gift in one or more ways?*

☐ **Collaboration**

*Do you like knowing the organization works with other organizations to accomplish their work?*

☐ **Communication**

*Is it important to receive frequent communication from the organizations you support, or just enough to be informed but not feel they're wasting your donation?*

☐ **Compassion**

*Do you need to know how the organization demonstrates their concern for the suffering or misfortune or others?*

☐ **Courage**

*Do you like to make gifts toward organizations that are boldly addressing tough issues?*

☐ **Creativity**

*Do you like organizations that are creative in their approach to change or addressing an issue?*

☐ **Duty**

*Do you give out of duty or obligation to someone or something?*

☐ **Effectiveness**

*Is it important to know how effective an organization is in addressing an issue or delivering services?*

☐ **Equality**

*Do you like to support organizations that champion the rights and opportunities of others?*

☐ **Excellence**

*Do you support organizations that do their work well and communicate a commitment to excellence?*

☐ **Faith**

*Do you like to support faith-based organizations or do you place your faith in organizations that make a difference?*

☐ **Freedom**

*Do you feel free to give in the way that is best for you and not out of an obligation or requirement?*

☐ **Generosity**

*Does giving provide you with a sense of joy?*

☐ **Hard Work**

*Do you like knowing the organization is working hard to provide services?*

☐ **Honesty**

*Do you continue to support the organization in spite of both success and failure?*

☐ **Humility**

*Are you modest about your giving, preferring little recognition or avoiding it all together?*

☐ **Impact**

*Is it important to know how your giving makes a difference or is bringing about change?*

☐ **Innovation**

*Do you like to be on the cutting edge of change?*

☐ **Integrity**

*Is it important for the organization to convey honest and ethical behavior?*

**❑ Justice**

*Is fairness, diversity, fair play or impartiality important to you?*

**❑ Knowledge**

*Do you need to know the organization has the facts, information, and skills to do the work? Or, do you like to increase your personal knowledge about an issue you fund?*

**❑ Leadership**

*Do you value demonstrated leadership by board and staff of an organization?*

**❑ Loyalty**

*Are you loyal to the cause or work an organization does? Do you tell others you are a donor or give repeatedly to their work?*

**❑ Patience**

*Are you willing to keep giving, providing an organization the time to have an impact?*

**❑ Possibility**

*Do you like imagining what is possible; are you willing to take a risk?*

**❑ Recognition**

*Is some recognition for your giving important?*

**❑ Relationships**

*Do you like to give where you know board members, volunteers or staff; or join friends or family in giving to a project?*

**❑ Respect**

*Do you have high regard and admiration for the work or people involved in the organization?*

**❑ Risk**

*Do you give to organizations that are experimenting or taking a chance on something new?*

**❑ Security**

*Do you need to feel your donation is safe; is it used well?*

**❑ Service**

*Do you like to be hands-on?*

**❑ Spirituality**

*Does giving to make a difference touch your human spirit or your soul?*

**❑ Strategic**

*Do you like knowing the organization has a plan or is very intentional about their work?*

**❑ Sustainable**

*Is it important that the work/service be sustainable, it could continue without you?*

**❑ Tradition**

*Is it in keeping with your customs and beliefs? Or, do you give because you or your family has always supported that organization?*

**❑ Transparency**

*Do you value open, honest communication from the organization? Are you willing to support them even when they fail from time to time?*



Make a list of the giving words you checked.




## Sort and list your top giving words.

Look at each word you checked. Sort and list each word from the most meaningful to the least below. The total number is not important at this point.

1 _____	6 _____
2 _____	7 _____
3 _____	8 _____
4 _____	9 _____
5 _____	10 _____



## Examine past donations.

Make a list of donations made over the last year.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____

Take a look at your top giving words and compare what you've learned about your past gifts to organizations you have been supporting. ***Do those organizations reflect your Giving Fingerprints and what is important to you?***

Answer this question:



“How do you give most often?”

- ☐ Write a check
- ☐ Become a sponsor
- ☐ Purchase event tickets
- ☐ Buy raffle tickets
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Everyone gives in ways they are most comfortable. There is no right or wrong way.

## Leave Your Giving Fingerprints Like Prints on a Glass

Look back at your sorted list of giving words. ***The list reveals giving values that describe who you are.*** Words at the top of the list should be most like you, while those at the bottom less like you. ***Compare your top five giving words to the list of the organizations and causes you’ve given to over the last year or so and answer an important question.***

***Are you leaving your Giving Fingerprints in the way that most describes who you are now and want to be going forward?*** If the answer is no, then there is room for work, room to change what and how you give in a way that is genuinely you.

Each time you face a giving decision, filter it through your list of top giving words. It’s a way to be intentional about your giving. ***Giving with clear intention yields a clear giving brand.***

“ Like prints on a glass, you leave your “fingerprints” on an organization or cause as a sign that you care and you were there.

